## Introduction to Technology and Teachers: Three Practical Questions January 8, 2008

Michael Witbeck Senior English Language Fellow, Ankara

## **Summary**

The main topics discussed are the relation between current computer technology and current pedagogical models, and some practical issues that shed light on the question of why and how teachers vary in their willingness to embrace technology.

## **Abstract**

The development of teaching and learning theory and the development of language teaching technology are two ongoing parallel processes. Because they are so closely related in practice, each has the power to influence the other. This presentation traces how technologies such as the blackboard and the computer can facilitate or hinder certain kinds of educational interactions. Use of computer technology by teachers at the present time is affected by teacher perceptions of technology. Some see it as a savior or an exciting new tool. Others have concerns about its seeming impersonality, its difficulty, and its lack of reliability. For teachers who are relatively inexperienced in the use of digital educational technology, it is useful to point out that other, more experienced or enthusiastic technology users also share these concerns and have developed a number of strategies to overcome them.